

State of Connecticut

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



COMMISSION ON CHILDREN

Highlights of the state budget approved March 31, 2006, by the legislature's Appropriation Committee.

State Department of Education

• Early Childhood Advisory Cabinet (same as current funding)	450,000
• School readiness grant (new money)	7,518,750
• Alternative Route for Certification for Early Childhood (new)	133,000
• New position for early childhood assessment (new)	100,000
• Early Childhood database (new)	1,200,000
• New position for IT (new)	300,000
• After School (new)	3,100,000

Note: \$535,000 for five new SR districts and \$6,883,750 for 1,000 new slots for ERGI

State Department of Social Services

• Children's Health Council (increase of \$65,000)	215,310
• HUSKY Outreach (current)	692,600
• HUSKY Program (increase of \$500,000)	29,720,000
• Care4Kids (new) (71,220,228 in FY '06: 73.8 million in '07)	1,500,000
• Child Day Care(current)	5,615,349
• After School	2,000,000
• Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention	2,000,000
• Fatherhood Initiative	250,000

Notes:

HUSKY: The HUSKY B program provides medical benefits for any child whose family income is less than 300% of the federal poverty level. The HUSKY program provides medical benefits for children whose incomes are less than 185% of the federal poverty level. Approximately \$1.7 million is added to FY'07 budget to offset the repeal of premiums for HUSKY B recipients.

- Under the HUSKY Program, the Access for Baby Care (ABC) program provides for pediatric examination of infants and application of fluoride to prevent tooth decay (\$1.1 million); provides \$10 million is appropriated to increase rates and access to dental care for Medicaid clients; provides \$600,000 to establish a program of periodontal treatment for pregnant women.
- Provides \$6 million to restore both guaranteed eligibility and self declaration policies under the HUSKY program.

Care4Kids: About \$4.1 million in TANF high-performance bonus dollars are carried over for the program in FY '07. Total for the program: \$73.8 million in '07. \$217,000 is added to maintain open enrollment in the program.

Restores income eligibility for the transitional child care program to 75% of the state median income. (from cuts in '03)

3) School Readiness line item has an increase of \$2 million dollars. This is for after school, not quality enhancement in school readiness programs.

Department of Public Health

- E-Health Initiative: \$300,000 to fund this newly established nonprofit organization, which intends to develop an integrated digital health care information system. (New dollars.)
- Asthma Initiative: \$650,000 for Easy Breathing Program (\$500,000) and extension of Easy Breathing for adults (\$150,000). (New.)
- Enhance Newborn Genetic Screening Contracts: \$124,000. (New.)
- Implement Comprehensive Screening of Children: \$1,495,436 to fund implementation of universal lead paint screening of children one and two years old and all children three to six years old who have not been previously screened or have been newly exposed to lead. (New.)
- School Based Health Clinics: \$930,000 for five new clinics.-total \$7,576,760 for FY'07. (New.)
- Immunization: \$1,598,000 for Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine for adolescents. (New.)

The Children's Trust Fund

- Nurturing Families: Operates in 25 of the 29 birthing hospitals in Connecticut, with four new programs being added by FY'07. Extends Nurturing Families Network to eight neighborhoods in New Haven to provide intensive home visiting services to 250 first time families. All 800 first time mothers in New Haven will be screened and 300 low risk new mothers will be offered parenting information, support, and community referrals via the Nurturing Connections program.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

- Birth to Three Program: \$986,000

Note: this appropriation is for rate increases for providers.